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BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

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Volume XXXIX.....No. 33

AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING

WOOD'S MUSEUM.
Broadway, corner Third street—PUSS IN BOOTS,
at 2 P. M.; closes at 4:30 P. M.; TRUMPS, at 5 P. M.;
closes at 11 P. M.GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
Elm street and Twenty-third street—HUMPTY
DUMPTY ABROAD, at 7:30 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.
Mc. G. L. Fox.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.
Twenty-third street and Broadway—FOLLIE, at 8 P.
M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Harkins, Miss Ada Dyas.GERMAN THEATRE.
Fourth street—BARRE BLEU, Offenbach's opera
bouffe, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.THEATRE COMIQUE.
No. 34 Broadway—SENT DAY, and VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT,
at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.BOOTH'S THEATRE.
Sixth street and Twenty-third street—LA FEMME DE
FUS, at 7:45 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mrs. J. B. Booth.WALLACK'S THEATRE.
Broadway and Third street—MONEY, at 8 P. M.;
closes at 11 P. M. Mr. Lester Wallack, Miss Jefferys Lewis.OLYMPIA THEATRE.
Broadway, between Houston and Rector streets—
VALDEVILLE and NOVELTY ENTERTAINMENT, and
Hofman Opera Troupe, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE.
opposite City Hall, Brooklyn—OUR AMERICAN COUSIN,
at 8 P. M.; closes at 11:45 P. M. Mr. E. A. Sothorn.MRS. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.
Washington street, Brooklyn—LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET,
at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Mrs. Bowlers.BOEWY THEATRE.
Bowery—THE SHAMER TWINS: PASSION, Begins at
8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Miss Laura Alberta.METROPOLITAN THEATRE.
No. 555 Broadway—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at
7:30 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.NIBLO'S GARDEN.
Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets—THE
GOLD FISH NOTHING, THE WIGMAN, MAN IN THE
RIGHT PLACE, Begins at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.
Vokes Family.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE.
No. 211 Bowery—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P.
M.; closes at 11 P. M.BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE.
Twenty-third street, corner of Sixth street—CINDER-
ELLA IN BLACK, NEGRO MISTRESS, &c., at 8 P. M.;
closes at 10 P. M.STEINWAY HALL.
Fourth street—CHARLOTTE CUSHMAN'S READ-
INGS, at 8 P. M.RAIN HALL.
Great Jones street and Lafayette place—THE PIL-
GRIM, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.COLOSSEUM.
Broadway, corner of Thirty-ninth street—PARIS BY
NIGHT, at 10 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.; same at 7 P. M.
closes at 10 P. M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Monday, February 2, 1874.

THE NEWS OF YESTERDAY.

To-Day's Contents of the
Herald.THE ELECTIONS IN ENGLAND: FORTY-EIGHT
CONTESTS AT THE POLLS LAST WEEK,
WITH A PREPONDERANCE OF CONSERVATIVE
SUCCESS: ATTORNEY GENERAL
JAMES AND MR. ONSLOW RETURNED—
SEVENTH PAGE.KING KOFFEE CALCULI SENDS A PEACE
EMBASSY TO GENERAL WOLSELEY: A
TRULY BRITISH REPLY: THE EMBASSY
KEPT AS HOSTAGES—SEVENTH PAGE.NO CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN BISMARCK
AND GLADSTONE ON ULTRAMONTANISM—
GENERAL NEWS ADVICES—SEVENTH PAGE.CHOLERA IN ACHEN: REMOVED DEATH OF
THE ACHENESE RULER—SEVENTH PAGE.THE DYNASTIES OF EUROPE: CHANGES IN
THE VARIOUS ROYAL HOUSES DURING
THE YEAR: THE "MUSICAL KING" OF
CORRESPONDENTS AND CROWNED HEADS—
FOURTH PAGE.FALLER CARTAGENA: THE BETRAYAL OF THE
INTRIGUERS: FEARFUL SCENES—
FIFTH PAGE.HANGING OF A CALIFORNIA MANSAYER: THE
HEAD COMPLETELY DISSECTED: THE
CRIME THAT LED TO THE EXECUTION—
A CHILD'S SUICIDE—ELEVENTH PAGE.COLONEL MCCLURE ACCEPTS THE PHILADEL-
PHIA MAYORALTY NOMINATION: HIS
SPEECH—THE HAMPTON DEPART—
TENTH PAGE.PUBLIC CHRISTIAN WORK: THE LAMENTED
LIVINGSTONE'S WORK AND REWARD:
THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS: FAITH AND
SIGHT, BELIEF AND PRACTICE—EIGHTH
PAGE.PROTECTION FOR THE MONSTER OF MISREUSE:
WHAT MORTON PROPOSES: DON CARLOS
AND HIS CUBAN ADHERENTS—MISS ED-
WARDS' NEW NOVEL—THIRD PAGE.CHARITABLE DISBURSEMENTS IN THE CITY:
THE PROPER APPLICATION OF THE VAST
FUND CONTRIBUTED: "BOARDING THE
POOR AT THE FIFTH AVENUE HOTEL"—
FOURTH PAGE.STARTLING DEFICIENCY IN FIRE FIGHTING AP-
PARATUS UPTOWN: THE PERILS OF OUR
CITIZENS AS EVIDENCED IN THE STIRN
HORROR—BISMARCK'S WRATH—FOURTH
PAGE.THE COURSE OF THE WALL STREET MARKETS
LAST WEEK: SOUTHERN STATE IN-
DEBTEDNESS—NINTH PAGE.CARTAGENA, after a heroic resistance, fell by
treachery among the besieged. The details
given elsewhere should be instructive to pro-
fessing revolutionists, because they teach that
making war on society is a poor business,
yielding no returns but infamy, poverty and
death.PROFESSOR PROCTOR AND THE HERALD.—
Elsewhere we publish a letter from Professor
Proctor, replying to our criticisms on his
theory of evolution. We defer answering the
exceptions which he takes to our comments on
his theory till a future occasion; but we recog-
nize the graceful compliment which he pays
to American science, however much we may
differ from his views as to how the scientific
results may best be reached.Famous Schemes of Paying the Debt
or Inflating the Currency.

There is but one verdict which history can pronounce when it comes to survey the financial vicissitudes of this country since the war, the crude plans of its Ministers, the idiotic measures of its legislators, the wily schemes of its political managers or the extravagant and impossible theories preached to the masses. That verdict is, "An era of folly, corruption and delirium."

To retrench expenditure; to fix the measure of values; to cheapen the cost of that measure—these are probably the postulates into which the greatest practical problems that affect our country to-day would be thrown by men of all parties. There is no question about retrenchment. Its absolute necessity is universally conceded, except only by those loathsome parasites of the Treasury who fatten upon a prodigal expenditure. Here the ways and means are matters of little consequence. Retrenchment is welcome, no matter the form in which it comes. But a single doubt presents itself in this connection, and that is concerning the policy of discontinuing to pay off the public debt.

To pay off a national debt and to pay off an individual debt involve entirely different considerations. Individual credit compared with national credit is low, and the market rate of interest charged for loans of money to individuals is high because the risk is high. And since the rate of net profits of the capital employed by individuals in their dealings or investments is certain to be less than the rate of interest they have to pay for money, it is usually advantageous for them to pay off their debts as soon as convenient. Not so with nations. Under good management their debts are susceptible of being funded at a rate of interest quite as low as the average net rate of profit on capital—sometimes lower; and in such case there is nothing to be gained by paying them off, whether convenient or not.

If money is worth to the taxpayers of this country, on the average, seven per cent per annum, there is obviously no advantage in their paying off a debt of money which they are borrowing at an average rate of five per cent. The interest charge is therefore the only source of concern which a nation should have with reference to its debt. To pay off the debt even when it has the means already amassed wherewith to pay it might, for the reasons stated, be a losing operation; to pay it off by instalments, with means wrung from time to time through taxation from the hard hand of toil, is sheer madness.

It has, however, been claimed by the supporters of the debt-paying policy that to lower the interest charge was the very object they had in view. The payment of a portion of the debt, they argue, will give assurance of our ability and willingness to pay the rest; as though the bondholder—whose interest it is, so long as the bonds draw a high rate of interest, that they shall not be paid off—was not capable of calculating this ability and willingness as well as the rest of the people! This part payment will result, they continue, in an appreciation of the bonds and enable us to fund them at lower rates of interest. Messrs. McCulloch and Boutwell both held these views and tried this policy without success. They did not appear to be aware that the market rate of interest for money is always sensibly affected by the current amount and economical expenditure of taxation. High taxes and wasteful expenditures, particularly when, as now, they are accompanied by their usual concomitants—corruption, insecurity and a lax administration of justice—will themselves tend to render money dear; for who will lend cheaply to spendthrifts or where justice cannot be enforced with certainty? Therefore to tax a nation heavily, as we are being taxed now, with the object of acquiring a large surplus wherewith to pay off a portion of its debt, is precisely the way not to diminish the rate of interest which the remainder of the debt will have to pay. With light taxes, economy and a rigid enforcement of the laws, the nation could go into the market and borrow all the money it needed at three per cent, and with this money it could pay off its existing debt on which it is now paying an average of five per cent; but with the continuance of the present system it can no more readily lessen its interest charge than a man can hoist himself into the air by tugging at his breeches bands. The principle in the two cases is precisely the same.

Another very important consideration in connection with the public debt is the unavoidable perturbations in values and commerce occasioned by the collection of a large sum of federal taxes, its incidental retention, first by officials, next by the national Treasury and then by the "public depositories," and its eventual distribution through the disbursing departments of the government. In this way no less than four hundred million dollars a year—a sum equal to the entire outstanding greenback currency—is sequestered from public use as money, either to benefit revenue officials or the banks, to lie idly in the Treasury or be sustained in a continual and useless voyage about the country in the locked safes of express companies. At the present moment of time no less than one hundred millions of public money are thus kept from their vitally useful purpose of measuring values and promoting industrial activity. Will it dare be maintained that such a tremendous and constant sequestration of currency has had no influence in upholding local monopolies of capital, promoting panics or disturbing the industrial prosperity of the country? Intimately connected with the debt policy is the currency. Any attempt to fix the volume of the latter by taking for a guide the measure of the currency in other countries or in this country at former periods is necessarily delusive. Currency does not fix values nor even the relation between them. It is simply a measure, more or less long, and all the better, when itself relatively valuable and useful for other purposes, by which to measure these relations. This can be done quite as well with a single one dollar note, cut into four hundred million pieces, as with four hundred million separate one dollar notes; or, for that matter, with ten thousand millions. To increase the number of these notes will no more cheapen loanable capital than would cutting up the present issue of notes into small pieces. Its only effect, when accorded the force of law, can be to dishonestly violate existing contracts and enable a debt undertaken at the measure of a long dollar to be discharged at the measure of a short one.

This idea of expanding the currency, at

first supported only by a few idle and mischievous demagogues, has been adopted by the Pennsylvania Railway Ring in desperate strait to bolster up their gigantic and tottering monopoly. This monopoly embraces fifteen hundred miles of railways, paid for in obligations hoped to be thus discharged, and their agents in Congress have been instructed to urge it upon the attention of that body. Some ignorant workmen, wholly incapable of understanding the subject, have been dragged into supporting it with "resolutions," and attempts have even been made to saddle it upon the Grangers, but, happily, without the slightest success. No apprehensions need exist that this scheme, or any modification of it, will succeed. Even if its advent in the House of Representatives cannot be deferred long enough to enable the people at large to weigh its mischievous tendencies there are probably already votes enough in Congress to defeat it. In the Senate or with the Executive it has no chance whatever.

On the other hand, there are not wanting advocates of a speedy return to specie payments—some even who would fix the day so shortly as three months hence. But such people evidently forget the six thousand millions of capital which the country lost during the war; the tremendous and wasteful bills of taxation, federal, State and local, which it has footed during the past thirteen years; the great fires of Chicago, Boston, &c.; and the loss of credit consequent upon the late panic; and they evidently overrate the national ability to immediately resume specie payments. There is time enough. It should naturally take longer to trudge up hill than to slide down. The doing nothing policy, as they scornfully call it, is precisely that which is always prescribed for sufferers from wounds, disease or overwork.

Thousands of people in this country—the industrious, the thrifty, the frugal; those upon whom, if upon any one class, the future hopes of the nation most securely rest—are indebted in part for their farms, their houses or their little stock in trade. Shall this burgher class, this yeomanry of America, be thrown into the bankruptcy courts, bereft, even annihilated, so far as public interest in them is concerned, merely because, forsooth, some wealthy capitalist of the cities is impatient to be repaid in gold that which he loaned in speculative, or, if you please, expectative paper?

This whole subject must yet descend from the empyrean of theory to the solid ground of fact before it can be disposed of intelligently. True statesmanship lies not with the butterfly's wings, but trends with the sure footsteps of vertebrate animals. The most brilliant financial policy which the country can be led to adopt consists of the homeliest of truths:—Pay as you go; spend little, reck little; creep before you walk; make haste slowly.

The Hydrographic Office and North Pacific Exploration—A Legislative Outline.

It is to be greatly regretted that the Congressional committee charged with retrenchment has cut down the appropriation for the Hydrographic Office without reason. The reduction proposed by the committee is fifty per cent of the meagre pittance it has heretofore doled out to what is one of the most important arms of the navy and was once the pride of the nation. The committee have also determined to squelch the North Pacific Ocean survey and deep sea soundings, and consequently the cartographical labors of the chief hydrographer, which had been undertaken to correct our Pacific charts, now so unsafe as to be unfit guides for the mariner. Henceforth our commerce on all the oceans will have to rely on foreign charts for purposes of navigation if this crushing reduction now contemplated by the committee takes effect. The Portsmouth, we learn, in consequence of the withdrawal of means, has already been detached from the survey, and the whole work of Commander Belknap will have to go by the board.

The committee is very astute at retrenching in small matters, while leaving the great and stalwart excrecences in expenditure barely peeled. Apart from any scientific results, the deep-sea exploration of the North Pacific and its submarine topography must go together; and it is proper the navy should see to the completion of the survey. The almost countless islets and archipelagoes of the great ocean have never yet been charted; indeed, there are thousands which yet remain to be discovered and surveyed. The volcanic nature of its bed, and hence the frequent changes in the submerged rocks of the intertropical Pacific, also render frequent and full revision of its cartography desirable.

It is to be earnestly hoped every encouragement will be given to this and the other hydrographic work so necessary for the navy and the whole mercantile marine. Out of four thousand charts of foreign seas and ports required by our seamen the Hydrographic Office has, owing to its niggardly support by Congress, been enabled to supply only five hundred. The commerce of the country has no other chart depot to which it may look for reliable and trustworthy guides on the ocean, and must be greatly crippled if the supply from the Washington office is cut off. The proposed reduction of its appropriation virtually brings that office to a standstill.

THUNDER ALL ROUND THE SKY.—Our telegram from London gives some facts that have a threatening look for the liberals. In a given group of elections the conservatives have elected their men in all the districts hitherto held by them save one, and have gained eight boroughs that were represented by liberals in the last Parliament. An enormous majority was given against the liberals at Chatham. It looks as if the country was of opinion that the liberals had gone too far and needed to be brought up suddenly.

WAGG.—An unjustifiable step has been taken by a certain portion of the people of Missouri—described as "five masked and heavily armed men;" but, though heavily armed, they were clearly light characters, and, though masked, they were barefaced rogues. These men, "none of them under six feet tall," stopped a train out of St. Louis, robbed all the passengers, taking about three thousand dollars, and rode away in a southerly direction on fine blooded horses. There can scarcely be two opinions as to the impropriety of such a course. Travel is sufficiently inconvenient without interruptions like this.

and the loss of one's money in such a way is even worse than investing it in bubble banking houses. Perhaps, however, people could endure the delay and the loss of the money; but the cool depravity of this riding away in a southerly direction on fine blooded horses, when the whole compass was open to them and the train was at their command, is an insult to the age.

Legal Tenders and Bank Notes.

Secretary Boutwell used the following language in his report of December, 1872, namely:—"As the circulation of a bank is a source of profit, and as the managers are usually disposed to oblige their patrons by loans and accommodations, it can never be wise to allow banks and parties who have pecuniary interest at stake to increase or diminish the volume of currency in the country at their pleasure; nor do I find in the condition of things a law or rule on which we can safely rely. Upon these views I form the conclusion that the circulation of the banks should be fixed and limited, and that the power to change the volume of paper in circulation within limits established by law should remain in the Treasury Department." By what right the Secretary made use of the word "remain" in the above connection is a question that has been discussed in the financial column of the HERALD, and it is to be hoped that it will be determined by Congress at an early day.

The ideas of Mr. Boutwell with reference to "money" and "currency" appear to have been as much muddled as are some of the wisecracks of the present Congress, who propose to substitute legal tenders for the entire volume of national bank notes, and seem to think the exchange would involve no inflation. But it would, and for the following reason:—The only "money" known in the United States is the legal tender note of the government. That is the "unit" which every one is compelled to accept in the payment of a debt. A national bank note is not "money" any more than would be the check of Richard Roe or John Doe, drawn on a national bank. It is simply a promise to pay by a national bank, on demand, in legal money, and, being secured by a deposit of government bonds, circulates more generally as the representative of "money" than do individual checks, which are equally its representative, though more localized, yet still perform the duties of money in the system of commercial exchanges at the rate of at least ten thousand to one of both legal tenders and bank notes combined. In other words, the legal tender is made by statute our gold and silver, and the national bank notes bear to them the same relation that the old State bank notes bore to gold.

It follows, therefore, that an increase in the amount of legal tenders is quite a different affair from a similar increase of national bank notes. The one is an actual addition to the amount of "money" in the country, and permits an expansion by the banks in the proportion of four to one. The other is an expansion of mere bank credit, which the banks must keep within safe bounds or else suffer the penalty of misfortune.

No one will deny the proposition that if the country were receiving twenty-five millions of dollars every three months in gold in payment of our products it would be not merely a sign of prosperity, but a basis for expansion and the creation of new enterprises; but will any one pretend that a similar amount of "money," such as has recently gone out, which is simply the production of a press and an evidence of debt, is either a sign of prosperity or a warrant for fresh undertakings? If so, let him find congenial company in Washington.

The Secretary said in his report, and the Senator has repeated it, that "the power should remain in the department," &c.; that "the department" should make money elastic for the purpose of moving the crops. Let us see for a moment what a fearful thing an elastic currency may be when left to those who are "disposed to oblige their patrons;" or, rather, what it would be under a free banking law, hedged around with provisions for strict redemption. At certain seasons of the year the cotton, wool, pork, grain and other merchants require a large amount of currency to send South and West for the purchase of their respective productions. It may be at a time when money is stringer in the great centres. The merchant offers to his bank his ninety day note, secured by collateral and duly approved, for which he receives the notes or bills of the institution, agreeing to distribute them in the South and West. The bank is, of course, happy to make the accommodation on these terms, and the merchant accordingly scatters his bills. By the time they have passed through the various channels of trade and returned to the issuing bank for redemption the very product purchased is also at hand and the proceeds of the same are ready to retire the notes. They have performed their function, and, being no longer required by the uses of commerce, come back to the fountain, head to remain in vault until again demanded. There has been no undue or dangerous expansion—no unsettling of values. The yardstick was thirty-six inches long before, and it so remained during the issue and after it had been retired. Not even a dollar of "money" was used—nothing but its representative. Such an issue cannot become excessive, for the moment that it does so it will be pressed for payment. Can the Treasury Department devise any plan by which it can do the same work—even admitting the propriety of governmental interference with the laws of trade—and do no damage?

Has the ex-Secretary ever heard that deposits are a source of profit to a bank, and that when a bank is in the hands of bad or dishonest managers these deposits are a source of danger to a community? If so, are we to hear a proposal in the Senate that banks shall not receive deposits, but that "that power shall remain in the department?" Was the ex-Secretary honest in giving this reason why "the power shall remain in the department," or was it a cunning way of meeting the charge, sure to be made, that he had violated the law in the previous October by the overissue of several millions of legal tenders—up to which time, it is safe to say, no man outside of the department dreamed of any such power—or do we find the real reason further on in the same report in a confession of his inability to conduct the department? The language is as follows:—"The business of the department cannot be transacted properly if a limit is fixed and the power to raise the circulation above or reduce it below that limit is denied." All this from the successor of Mr. McCulloch, who

had not only been able to fund a floating debt of some thousands of millions of dollars without the aid of a "sliding scale," but had also reduced the demand "promises to pay" from over four hundred and thirty million dollars down to three hundred and fifty-six million dollars. We leave the ex-Secretary to the tender charities of the United States Senate, where, perhaps, he may learn some lessons in finance not taught at the "department."

Indignant Virtue.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29, 1874.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—Don't you think the railroad companies exag-
gerate when they state that one-third of their
earnings is appropriated by their employees? I do,
and here are my reasons. For the want of better
employment I was obliged to accept the unthank-
ful position of "conductor" on the Eighth Avenue
Railroad last October, the remuneration for which
was \$2 per day or about fifteen hours. Now, I con-
sidered, as does every one else who accepts such
positions, that the above pay was not sufficient.
I wanted to keep the job for the winter, and on
that account took from the company what I
thought was a very little—viz., two
dollars over 4000 trip of \$1400 of which the
forty cents went to the driver, thus bringing my
wages up to \$3, which in all justice is small pay
enough for what one endures conducting a car.
At the end of my ninth week's employment I was
laid off for being "short," although I only took out
\$5.40 per week, considering myself entitled to as
much wages as the driver; yet he was laid off, his
returns being about \$20 per day for twelve weeks.
Now, I and others too, I suppose, would like to
know how the company from the above examples
can say that one-third of their earnings is made
away with? The fact is the stockholders find it
necessary to hide the true amount of their earn-
ings from the public, and exaggerating the theft
of employees offers a plausible way in which to do
it.

EX-CONDUCTOR EIGHTH AVENUE RAILROAD.
We are always willing to uphold the cause
of the outraged and oppressed. "Ex-Con-
ductor" is an injured man, and we publish
his letter in the hope that the railroad com-
pany by which he was employed will do him
justice, and restore so considerate and honest
an employee to the position of which he has
been cruelly and arbitrarily deprived. Such
a conscientious individual deserves better
treatment than to be "laid off" for being
"short."

POOR LOUISIANA!—Mr. Hebert writes to
Senator Bayard "as a democrat, a native and
a citizen of Louisiana," deprecating Con-
gressional interference in the politics of that State
and especially opposing the proposition for
a new election. He may be right in his oppo-
sition to the election, but he sustains his view
absurdly, and puts himself in the position of
the judge whose decision was not disputed
till he gave his reasons for it. Mr. Hebert
admits that a great outrage was done in the
"judicial proceedings" that seated the present
Governor, but he still objects to "convulsing
the State with a new election." Kellogg and
company would, perhaps, ask nothing better
than to preserve the State from such convul-
sions for twenty or thirty years. Mr. Hebert
is also of opinion that for Congress to order
an election would establish a precedent for
constant meddling of the same sort; against
the precedent for an Executive installation of
a fraudulent government he has nothing to
say. Republican magnates have assured the
country that the best men in Louisiana were
against a new election, and this man is doubt-
less one of that class. They think the less
help they have from the republican lawmakers
the better they will be off.

THE ASHANTES have come down from their
lofty perch, as the cable informs us this morn-
ing, and they sigh for peace. The mi-
trillises and artillery of Sir Garnet Wolse-
ley have had the effect of showing the blacks
that war is not the most desirable institution
in the world, and the recognition of this sur-
prising fact has induced King Koffee to send
a dozen plenipotentiaries into the British
camp in order that the English may be in-
formed of this complete revolution in the
ideas of their sovereign. But the General
told the embassy that he would only treat
with Koffee at Coomassie. This would indi-
cate ample spoil, indemnity and permanent
occupation.

BAD MEDICINE.—General Sherman has a
notion that it is very "bad medicine" to feed
and coddle the Indians who make desert places
of already settled districts in the Western
country, and the common sense of the nation
is with him. We suppose, however, there is
not the slightest hope that the Indians will
ever get the scalp of Governor Davis, of Texas,
and if they should we can scarcely hope that
this fact would put an end to a policy that
depends upon official folly. There will be men
of very moderate capacity left even when
Davis is gone, so that the system of nursing
the Indians and feeding them on sweetmeats
and philanthropy is not likely to perish for
want of fools to keep it up. Meanwhile the
policy suggested by General Sherman, of giv-
ing the Indians altogether to the War Depart-
ment, is the true solution. All our Indian
troubles come from cheating the savages, and
the army is the only means we have of dealing
with them honestly.

IN MARYLEBONE Tom Hughes, known as the
author of "Tom Brown's School Days" and
"Tom Brown at Oxford," has delivered a long
address in favor of co-operative associations of
workmen, his sentiments being heartily
endorsed by Professor Goldwin Smith, of Cor-
nell University. The workingman is a hobby
which Mr. Hughes has ridden almost to his
own destruction. As a politician Mr. Hughes
has been a great failure. The workmen
placed him in Parliament; but we have yet to
learn that he has in any substantial sense
advanced their interests. Professor Goldwin
Smith, although somewhat of a fussy indi-
vidual, is a man of a higher type. Mr. Hughes
has need of all the assistance his friend can
render him.

THE MISREPRESENTATIVE MOUTH is to be opened,
if the Western members of Congress will
vote "Aye" on a proposition to take
one hundred and fifty thousand dollars
from the Treasury and expend the sum
on a scheme entitled "cheap transportation."
We see no objection to the preservation of
public works in our harbors and along our
river banks, as the Representatives propose, if
it can be demonstrated that the objects in
view are national; but we do see a very strong
reason why the public money should not be
expended on schemes which are intended for
sectional aggrandizement alone. The West-
ern member is very set about one subject—he
does not wish to have his produce moved via
the Atlantic seaboard; and so determined is
he that he would prefer even a route via
Baffin's Bay or Behring Straits. We would,
therefore, warn Congressmen in general that
they should be slow to advocate measures
which clearly mean the destruction of the
commercial prosperity of "our great maritime
cities."

Solar Spots and Solar Weather-Pro-
dictions.

The great problem of sun-spot and temper-
ature cycles has been recently reopened by
the publication of the laborious researches of
the German physicist Koppen. The question
whether the increased frequency of solar spots
in any given year affects the heat and mag-
netic condition of the earth has never al-
luded since the celebrated investigation of the
elder Herschel. This matchless astronomer
formed the opinion that when the sun's face
is most thickly spotted it radiates unusually
large quantities of heat; and he reasonably
concluded that if this was true the price of
corn in England would show it. Inquiry
proved the correctness of his reasoning, for he
found corn had been uniformly cheaper in the
years of maximum sun-spottedness.

The inference drawn by Herschel is sus-
tained by the new inquiries of Dr. Koppen.
Selecting the Central Physical Observatory at
St. Petersburg, with its vast mass of meteor-
ological records, as the place for prosecuting
his work, this scientist collates the registers of
nearly thirty distinct regions and geographical
districts, covering the last hundred years
(from 1750 to 1870). On comparison of the
thermal results with the sun-spot wave a strik-
ing correspondence at once appears up
to the year 1854. In the tropics
the maximum of heat falls about one year be-
fore the spot minimum; and in the extra-
tropical zones about a year after the minimum.
It seems probable from actual observation
that the sun's surface temperature is at its
highest one or two years before the minimum
of its spottedness. It would also appear that
the spots (taking them to be solid bodies)
take so long to melt in the glowing solar fire
that their minimum temperature occurs after
their heat supply has been mostly radiated on
the terrestrial surface and raised its tempera-
ture to the maximum. The investigation fur-
ther shows that from 1815 to 1854 all the
peculiarities and disturbances in the sun-spot
curve are reflected in the thermometric curve,
or, in a word, the trough of the one wave and
the crest of the other are symmetrical, and
vice versa. The author suggests that further
inquiry over a more protracted period of time
will show several independent periodical ac-
tions which are directly concerned in pro-
ducing the climatic changes and weather
cycles of our own planet.

But, what is of more practical and of present
value, he finds that the greatest anomalies of
the earth's heat occur for a considerable time
in a series which progresses by multiples of
nine, and in such a manner that an interval
of twenty-seven years alternates with one of
eighteen years. From 1740 to 1857 the only
exception is the isolated cold year of 1794, so
famous as that in which Pichegru's whole
army encamped and wintered in Holland.

If the rule deduced be correct, and its
validity between 1740 and 1857 be not a mere
coincidence, then the next intensely cold
winter for southwestern Europe is that of
1875-76.

No doubt in many cases of prediction we
find illustrated the aphorism of Lord Bacon,
"Men mark when they hit, and never mark
when they miss." It is a truism universally
to be remembered, We must be careful how
we generalize facts before we have a sufficient
number at our disposal. And yet, it must not
be overlooked that the accumulated results of
many such laborious and extensive inquiries
as Dr. Koppen's, prosecuted by independent
physicists, with a single exception (that of M.
Gautier, of Geneva), confirm the old view of
Sir William Herschel.

If further researches conclusively demon-
strate it meteorology would soon be able to
furnish approximate forecasts of exceptionally
cold and hot years, stormy and serene seasons.
The value and utility of such long predictions
may be guessed at from knowing, as we do,
the immense advantages of our present one
and two days' forecasts. The subject is
worthy of a vigorous and widely extended in-
vestigation, and we may hope the data fur-
nished by the Signal Office will finally avail
for its solution.

THE UPS AND DOWNS OF EUROPEAN ROYALTY
are treated on in another part of the
HERALD by one of our correspondents writing
from Frankfort-on-the-Main. In two columns
he gives a view of all the political systems of
Europe, describing the rise and fall of dynas-
ties, the striking events of the year, telling of
the end of many dowagers—by that impartial
fate which, with equal pace,
Knocks at the palace and the cottage gate.

It is one of those letters having permanent
value, and which, as the critic would observe,
"should always be at hand for convenient
reference." It has been said by a philosopher
that the best history of the world could be
written within a column's space. However
that may be, it is an auspicious sign that
we are coming to the age of terseness, when men
can read "solid facts" without being com-
pelled to wade through wearisome rubbish
except essay or disquisition.

COMICALITIES IN CONGRESS.—Somebody with
a keen sense of the ridiculous might write
a very funny book on the humors of Congress.
The record of the Committees on Claims
alone would furnish many eccentricities.
There is droll humor in Mr. Sargent's propo-
sition to reimburse Miss Anthony for the costs
of her recent lawsuit, and in the bill of a corn
doctor for removing forty-six thousand dol-
lars' worth of bunions from the feet of our
brave soldiers during the war. Then the vir-
tuous indignation of Senators Carpenter and
Conkling because of a discovery that station-
ery had been issued to some impetuous
Bohemians! It is true the Bohemians had no
right to steal the pens, ink and paper; but the
indignation of grave Senators over this petty
theft while the time of the Senate might have
been spent in exposing immense jobs has its
comic as well as its serious side. Let us have
a